

**CORRECTED MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**CHARLOTTE HARBOR**  
**COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**Thursday, November 18, 2010 – 2:00 p.m.**  
County Administration Building – Room 119  
18500 Murdock Circle, Port Charlotte, FL 33948

**Members Present**

James Herston, *Chairman*  
Michael Haymans, *Vice Chairman*  
Grace Amodeo, *Secretary*  
Charlotte Ventola  
Garland Wilson

**Members Absent**

Nathaniel Cooley

**Staff Present**

Debrah Forester, Redevelopment Manager  
Kelly Slaughter, Projects Manager, Public Works  
Chuck Koons, Projects Engineer, Public Works  
Kathy M. Knee, Recorder

**Guests**

Peter VanBuskirk, Kimley Horn  
Deputy William Miller

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**I. Call to Order**

Chairman Herston called the November 18, 2010 meeting of the Charlotte Harbor Community Redevelopment Agency Advisory Committee to order at 2:00 p.m. in Room 119 of the Charlotte County Administration Building.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

Chairman Herston led the members and the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. Roll Call/Determination of Quorum**

Roll call was taken; Secretary Grace Amodeo confirmed a quorum was present.

**IV. Additions/Deletions to Agenda – None.**

**V. Approval of Minutes**

A Motion was presented by Charlotte Ventola and seconded by Grace Amodeo to approve the Minutes of the October 28, 2010 Regular Meeting of the Charlotte Harbor Community Redevelopment Agency Advisory Committee with one correction: Under Item X, Ganyard Street Property, delete the words “of the plumbing company.” Motion carried unanimously.

**VI. Commissioner Comments - None.**

**VII. Public Comments - None.**

**VIII. Development Review Report – None.**

**IX. Old Business**

**Sheriff's Office Update** – Deputy William Miller, District 4 Community Policing Officer, reported that during the last 45 days there were traffic enforcement, bike patrols and directive/proactive patrols in the area. Deputy Miller reported there were some non-resident drug arrests and he noted that foreclosures were creating problems, such as break-ins. Deputy Miller reported that vagrants in the park after hours are now being arrested for trespassing, which keeps them from going back into park. An open container crackdown and arrests for trespassing seem to be helping. Deputy Miller mentioned that Debrah Forester and the Environmental Deputy met regarding lot clean up and vagrant camps. No new camps have been spotted. Discussion followed

regarding the park closing at dusk, except for fishing purposes; this is believed to be a County-wide policy. (Deputy Miller reported later in the meeting that the park is closed from 9 p.m. – 6 a.m., except for piers and boat ramps which are open 24 hours.)

**Scope of Work Trails and Wayfinding** – A copy of the Scope of Work was distributed with the meeting packet. Debrah Forester noted that at last month's meeting this item was tabled due to cost concerns and more detail was requested. Peter VanBuskirk of Kimley Horn was introduced, had sample drawings of signage handed out to each Committee member and reviewed each the handouts. Mr. VanBuskirk noted the idea for Charlotte Harbor is for a family of signs. He advised the study for sign placement would include recommended sites as well as reasons why other sites were deemed inappropriate. Mr. VanBuskirk explained the scope included the concept, the survey, permitting and the construction of the signage.

Discussion followed regarding costs, various materials and the sizes of the signs. Dennis Murphy, Growth Management Director for the City of Punta Gorda, reported on his experience with the City's signage and costs. Mr. Murphy noted that prices were dictated by government requirements; signs on a Federal roadway raised the cost in Punta Gorda.

Further discussion about the cost and need for decorative signage at this time ensued. Debrah Forester asked if it was the consensus of the Committee to not move forward with this project as presented by Kimley Horn but to obtain pricing from Public Works for signs with the new logo, if possible. **A Motion was presented by Garland Wilson, seconded by Charlotte Ventola, and unanimously approved to not move forward with hiring professional services for the trails and wayfinding project at this time.** Michael Haymans added that this is something that would be useful in the future; Mr. Wilson agreed. **A Motion was presented by Garland Wilson, seconded by Michael Haymans, and unanimously approved to have Public Works determine if they could create signage to incorporate the new Charlotte Harbor logo and give the Committee cost estimates for its review.** Mr. Haymans suggested that some members of the Advisory Committee should work with staff to make site location selections for the signage. Mr. Haymans recommended the CRA support the NBR area; people need to know where the artisans are located particularly since they do not have the visibility on 41.

Kelly Slaughter advised a quote will be prepared by Public Works. Debrah Forester will furnish Ms. Slaughter with copies of the logo. State, federal and local government offices may need to get involved for permitting purposes. Charlotte Ventola mentioned she has been looking over the area for best signage locations and mentioned a few. Jim Herston and Charlotte Ventola will confer with Debrah Forester on the location of signs.

**Melbourne Bridge Replacement** – Kelly Slaughter introduced Chuck Koons, Engineer for the bridge project. Mr. Koons noted the replacement of the Melbourne Bridge is considered a stimulus project and part of the scope of work includes input from the Advisory Committee. Mr. Koons stated this bridge will enhance the community and it would be similar to the new bridge at in Cape Haze with Texas classic railways, lighted roadway at each corner of the bridge, a sidewalk on one side and a multi-use path on the other side. Mr. Koons stated the construction of the bridge would be in 2011 but they are working with a tight budget so any extras may need to be paid by the CRA. Kelly Slaughter recommended the bridge be two colors, have four decorative lights and

the sidewalk should be extended to Chester Roberts Park with additional lighting. Ms. Slaughter also suggested the use of a concrete deck, which requires less maintenance but costs a bit more expensive than asphalt, which is maintenance intensive. Ms. Slaughter asked the Committee what type of things they think would be valuable to this project. Garland Wilson asked if each side of the bridge could be 8 feet since fishing is popular there; Mr. Koons noted there may not be sufficient right-of-way on both sides. Michael Haymans asked about clearance; Mr. Koons advised it is never allowed to go lower than existing clearance and cautioned that going too high could cause a hump and sight issues. Mr. Koons asked the Committee to start thinking about elements they wish to see in the bridge project; their input will be requested in December or January.

**X. New Business – None.**

**XI. Correspondence/Communications**

The Minutes of the Punta Gorda CRA meeting of November 4, 2010 were distributed with the meeting packet.

The Bayshore Live Oak Park Survey Response from the Wine Festival was distributed with the meeting packet. Mr. Wilson asked the cost to vendors for events in the park; Ms. Forester responded it was based on event, but she believed the cost was minimal usually about \$10-\$15.

**XII. Public Comments**

Clifford Kewley suggested negotiating with bridge contractor to reduce the cost of the project – the contractor will need a place to store equipment and supplies; the County could offer a space at a nearby County facility.

**XIII. Staff Comments**

**Lot Maintenance Program Update** – Debrah Forester reported 13 lots were approved for the lot maintenance program. The contractor has withdrawn from the project due to a family matter. Ms. Forester is working with Purchasing to determine next steps.

**Gateway Land Acquisition Program Update** – Ms. Forester advised that an offer was made and verbally declined on the property next to Chester Roberts Park; a counter offer has not been made to date. Ms. Forester will be meeting with Derek Rooney to discuss the long term lease opportunity of the Raw Bar property. Jim Herston is also looking at this site to see what will be needed to make it a usable parcel.

**Riverwalk Partnership Meeting** – Debrah Forester advised there will be a meeting of the Riverwalk Partnership on December 7 at 5:30 at the Historical Center. Ms. Forester briefly explained the Brownfield designation and incentives tied to it. A representative from the State of Florida will speak at the meeting since the State is currently allowing this designation be used in redevelopment areas where there is a lack of investment. Ms. Forester advised that she will be meeting with Derek Rooney tomorrow to discuss the limited liability partnership.

**XIV. Attorney Comments - Attorney Rooney was not available for today's meeting.**

**XV. Member Comments**

Michael Haymans gave an update on the Hands Across the Harbor event.

**XVI. Next Meeting Date**

There was a brief discussion about regular meeting dates and the need for a new date for January's meeting. A new commissioner has not yet been selected to replace Commissioner Loftus as BCC Liaison. The next regular meeting of the Charlotte Harbor Community Redevelopment Agency Advisory Committee will be held on **Thursday, December 6, 2010 at 11 a.m. in Room 119 of the Charlotte County Administration Center.**

**XVII. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting **ADJOURNED** at 3:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Kathy M Knee*

Kathy M. Knee, Recorder

/kmk

Approved: 12/6/10